

ITEM: 16

SUBJECT: City of Woodland, Water Pollution Control Facility, Yolo County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of revised NPDES Permit and Cease and Desist Order.*

BACKGROUND: The City of Woodland (Discharger) owns and operates a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system, and provides sewerage service to domestic, commercial, and industrial users of the City of Woodland. The treatment system consists of activated sludge oxidation ditches, secondary clarifiers, and a chlorination/dechlorination process. Approximately 315 acres of ponds are used for the treatment of sludge and storage of excess wastewater during periods of peak flow. Treated municipal wastewater is discharged to Tule Canal, within the Yolo Bypass, a water of the United States. The designed flow rate is 7.8 million gallons per day.

The Regional Board issued Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order No. R5-2003-0031 (NPDES No. CA0077950) and Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2003-0032 on 13 March 2003. The Discharger filed a timely petition with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), which issued Order WQO 2004-0010 modifying the Regional Board's Orders. The Discharger challenged the Orders as modified by State Board Order WQO 2004-0010. On 16 May 2005 the Alameda County Superior Court issued an "Order Granting Writ of Administrative Mandamus" (Court Order) ordering further revisions to the Orders. Consistent with this Court Order, the proposed revised WDR Order No. R5-2003-0031, as modified by State Board Order WQO 2004-0010, (1) deletes effluent limits for beryllium, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, and organochlorine pesticides; (2) addresses the site-specific effluent limit for aluminum consistent with the Court Order; and (3) demonstrates why average weekly and average monthly limits are impractical consistent with federal regulations and applicable federal water quality criteria for biochemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids, dibromochloromethane, oil and grease, aluminum, turbidity, total coliform organisms, settleable solids, ammonia, and chlorine residual. In addition, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate and organochlorine pesticides have been deleted from the proposed revised Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2003-0032.

ISSUES: The proposed tentative NPDES permit and Cease and Desist Order have been amended solely to address the Court's Order. The Notice of Public Hearing stated that only those limited changes to the Orders would be considered. Comments were received from the Baykeeper's DeltaKeeper Chapter, the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, and Watershed Enforcers (DeltaKeeper). The issues of concern raised by the DeltaKeeper are:

- The DeltaKeeper objects to the removal of effluent limits for beryllium, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate and organochlorine pesticides and considers the removal of these constituents to be

backsliding. The DeltaKeeper questions the Court's use of a 3-year time period to determine reasonable potential, and notes that bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate and organochlorine pesticides have been detected in the discharge within the past three years.

Although the following issues were not topics of discussion in the revised tentative Orders, the DeltaKeeper also submitted the following additional comments:

- The DeltaKeeper objects to the absence of ammonia limits from June 1 through September 30, as directed by WQO 2004-0010, since warmwater species are present in the Tule Canal during warm weather and new information shows coldwater species to be present in the Tule Canal year-round.
- The DeltaKeeper objects to the absence of electrical conductivity limits to protect irrigated agriculture, as directed by WQO 2004-0010.

The City of Woodland has indicated they will be submitting comments prior to the Regional Board's hearing. Regional Board staff will also prepare a response to written comments prior to the hearing.

Mgmt. Review _____

Legal Review _____

September 15/16 2005

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
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